

National Scenic River, Public Law 102-50. The purpose of the group, according to its charter, is to advise the Secretary of the Interior on matters pertaining to the development of a management plan, and management and operation of the Scenic River. The Niobrara National Scenic River includes the 40-mile segment from Borman Bridge southeast of Valentine, Nebraska to its confluence with Chimney Creek; and the 30-mile segment from the confluence with Rock Creek downstream to State Highway 137.

Dated: September 8, 1996.  
William W. Schenk,  
*Field Director, Midwest Field Area.*  
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### **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Advisory Commission**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.  
**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets the schedule for the forthcoming meeting of the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Advisory Commission. Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463).

**DATE AND TIME:** Friday, October 18, 1996; 9:30 a.m. until 12 noon.

**ADDRESS:** Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Headquarters, Empire, Michigan. The agenda for the meeting consists of the Chairman's welcome; minutes of the previous meeting; statement of purpose; public input; update on park activities; old business; new business; next meeting date; adjournment. The meeting is open to the public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Superintendent Ivan Miller, 9922 Front Street, Empire, Michigan 49630; or telephone 616-326-5134.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Advisory Commission was established by the law that established the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Public Law 91-479. The purpose of the commission, according to its charter, is to advise the Secretary of the Interior with respect to matters relating to the administration, protection, and development of the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, including the establishment of zoning by-laws, construction, and administration of scenic roads, procurement of land, condemnation of commercial property, and the preparation and implementation of the land and water use management plan.

Dated: September 18, 1996.  
William W. Schenk,  
*Field Director, Midwest Field Area.*  
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### **Bureau of Reclamation**

#### **Central Valley Project Improvement Act, Criteria for Evaluating Water Conservation Plans**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of draft decision of evaluation of water conservation plans.

**SUMMARY:** To meet the requirements of the Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA), the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) developed and published the Criteria for Evaluating Water Conservation Plans (Criteria) dated April 30, 1993. These Criteria were developed based on information provided during public scoping and public review sessions held throughout Reclamation's Mid-Pacific (MP) Region. Reclamation uses these Criteria to evaluate the adequacy of all water conservation plans developed by project contractors in the MP Region, including those required by the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982. The Criteria were developed and the plans evaluated for the purpose of promoting the most efficient water uses reasonably achievable by all MP Region's contractors. Reclamation made a commitment (stated within the Criteria) to publish a notice of its draft determination on the adequacy of each contractor's water conservation plan in the Federal Register and to allow the public a minimum of 30 days to comment on its preliminary determinations. This program is ongoing; an updated list will be published to recognize districts as plans are revised to meet the Criteria.

**DATES:** All public comments must be reviewed by Reclamation by October 25, 1996.

**ADDRESSES:** Please mail comments to the address provided below.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Tracy Slavin, Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, MP-402 Sacramento, CA 95825. To be placed on a mailing list for any subsequent information, please write Tracy Slavin or telephone at (916) 979-2384.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under provisions of Section 3405(e) of the CVPIA (Title 34 of Public Law 102-575), "The Secretary [of the Interior] shall establish and administer an office on

Central Valley Project water conservation best management practices that shall \* \* \* develop criteria. For evaluating the adequacy of all water conservation plans developed by project contractors, including those plans required by section 210 of the Reclamation Reform Act of 1982." Also, according to Section 3405(e)(1), these criteria will be developed " \* \* \* with the purpose of promoting the highest level of water use efficiency reasonably achievable by project contractors using best available cost-effective technology and best management practices."

The MP Criteria states that all parties (districts) that contract with Reclamation for water supplies (municipal and industrial contracts over 2,000 irrigable acre-feet and agricultural contracts over 2,000 irrigable acres) will prepare water conservation plans which will be evaluated by Reclamation based on the following required information detailed in the steps listed below to develop, implement, monitor, and update their water conservation plans. The steps are:

1. Coordinate with other agencies and the public
2. Describe the district
3. Inventory water resources
4. Review the past water conservation plan and activities
5. Identify best management practices to be implemented
6. Develop schedules, budgets, and projected results
7. Review, evaluate, and adopt the water conservation plan
8. Implement, monitor, and update the water conservation plan

The MP contractors listed below have developed water conservation plans which Reclamation has evaluated and preliminarily determined meet the requirements of the Criteria.

- Alpaugh Irrigation District.
- East Bay Municipal Utilities District.
- Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District.

Public comment on Reclamation's preliminary (i.e., draft) determinations at this time is invited. Copies of the plans listed above will be available for review at Reclamation's MP Regional Office and MP's area offices. If you wish to review a copy of the plans, please contact Mr. Slavin to find the office nearest you.

Dated: September 17, 1996.  
Kirk C. Rodgers,  
*Deputy Regional Director.*  
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